



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Chemistry and Your Career

If you enjoy studying Chemistry at school, then a science degree can give you lots of exciting career opportunities.

As a Chemistry graduate, you can work in established manufacturing industries such as food and beverages, pharmaceuticals, or mineral and petroleum products. Or, you can take a leading role in the emerging industries involving biotechnology, and synthesis and testing of bioactive molecules. Other options include careers in management, marketing and sales, information technology, law, teaching, and environmental consultancies. Careers in research, government and professional positions are also available to you.

Below are just some of the career paths open to students who have completed a Bachelor of Science majoring in chemistry.

What do our graduates say about studying Chemistry? We talk to Rachel Hart about her career path

"I currently work as a chemist for Qenos, Altona. Qenos is the sole manufacturer of polyethylene in Australia. My days involve working in the analytical and physical laboratories on a range of product development, quality assurance and plant process support. I completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours) majoring in Chemistry. In the summer before my honours year I worked as a vacation student with Qenos. I had lots of fun as an undergraduate, and particularly enjoyed my honours year in Chemistry, where I was able to collaborate with CSIRO and Dulux for my research project."



Medicinal Chemist	Biochemist	Hydrogeologist	Science Journalist	Entrepreneur
Research Chemist	Research Assistant	Groundwater Manager	Environmental Lawyer	Marketing Manager
Mineral & Petroleum Chemist	Clinical Research Associate	Natural Resource Manager	Research Grant Coordinator	Project Manager
Polymer Chemist	Clinical Chemist	Environmental Scientist	Patent Attorney	Business Analyst
Surfactant Technologist	Toxicologist	Geologist	Medical Writer	Information Technologist
Pharmaceutical Chemist	Food Biochemist	Atmospheric Scientist	University Lecturer	Business Consultant
Paint Chemist	Biotechnologist	Environmental Chemist	School Teacher	Stockbroker
Food and Beverages Chemist	Quality Assurance Biochemist	Environmental Safety Officer	Scientific Sales Representative	
Agricultural Chemist	Pharmacologist	Government Political Advisor	Technical Writer	
Explosives Chemist	Medical Researcher		Science Editor	
Nanotechnologist	Clinical Trial Scientist		Government Policy Advisor	
Synthetic Chemist	Clinical Research Manager		Laboratory Manager	



SAMPLE COURSE PLAN – For students who wish to maximise chemistry subjects within their three year course

Year 1	Semester 1	Chemistry 1	Physics	Earth Sciences	Science elective
	Semester 2	Chemistry 2	Physics	Earth Sciences	Science elective
Year 2	Semester 1	Reactions and Synthesis	Environmental Chemistry	Geology	Water for a Sustainable Planet
	Semester 2	Structure and Properties	Practical Chemistry	Geology	Thinking, Reasoning and Learning
Year 3	Semester 1	Reactivity and Mechanism	Advanced Practical Chemistry	Specialised Topics in Chemistry A	Australia in the World of Wine
	Semester 2	Specialised Topics in Chemistry B	Chemistry Research Project	Analytical & Environmental Chemistry	Ways of Knowing and Learning

SAMPLE COURSE PLAN – The minimum chemistry subjects required for a chemistry major

Year 1	Semester 1	Chemistry 1	Physics	Biology	Science elective
	Semester 2	Chemistry 2	Physics	Biology	Science elective
Year 2	Semester 1	Reactions and Synthesis	Biochemistry	Pharmacology	Water for a Sustainable Planet
	Semester 2	Structure and Properties	Practical Chemistry	Pharmacology	Thinking, Reasoning and Learning
Year 3	Semester 1	Reactivity and Mechanism	Advanced Practical Chemistry	Pharmacology	Australia in the World of Wine
	Semester 2	Analytical & Environmental Chemistry	Specialised Topics in Chemistry B	Pharmacology	Ways of Knowing and Learning

	Subjects supporting the major in third year		Breadth subjects – subjects outside science, or integrating science with humanities and social sciences
	Other Science areas of study to complement your major		A major in the BSc is usually four third-year subjects in a specific area of science, technology or engineering systems

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